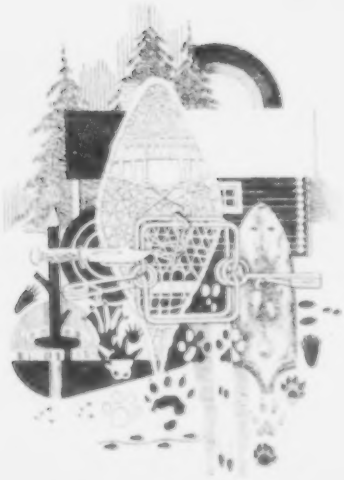
2005/2006

Trapping Guide



Protecting & Managing *our Future*

Manitoba
Building for the Future

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Cover photo - Natural Resources staff prepare to release marten in the Duck Mountain Registered Trapline Section, 1969. Forty-two marten were released. In the last decade, approximately $200,000 in marten pelts have been harvested by trappers from this section. (l-r: Ed Coulson; Stan Van Zyll de Jong; Dwayne Davies).

106-01055/

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Trapping is a tradition in Manitoba that dates back centuries.

Today, our province has over 7,000 licensed trappers and trapping remains a respected part of a land-based way of life that is important to many Manitobans and their communities. Trapping is also an effective method of dealing with problems that can be created by an overabundance of wildlife.

For instance, the dams built by beavers often create flooding. In other cases, our province's farmers and ranchers lose livestock as a result of attacks by predators such as wolves or coyotes. Trapping is an efficient, humane method to help control these sorts of incidents and lessens the economic losses they create. Manitoba Conservation is working co-operatively with municipalities and landowners in western Manitoba to promote methods of controlling these problems.

As a young boy, I often traveled with my grandfather through the Swan River Valley, carrying traps and learning many lessons about respecting the land, animals and using natural resources responsibly.

For Aboriginal people, trapping provides an important connection to the land and their traditional way of life. Last year, during my visit to several communities on the East Side of Lake Winnipeg, I spoke with many Elders who expressed their concerns about the future of trapping, their land, their youth and their communities.

These Elders realize that their youth are the future stewards of the land. Recognizing this, I am pleased that my department, in co-operation with several Aboriginal communities and stakeholders, is developing an important program for youth – "Reconnecting with the Land". This program is a land-based outdoor education system that, among other things, teaches our young people the important role trapping continues to play in the way of life of many Manitoba communities.

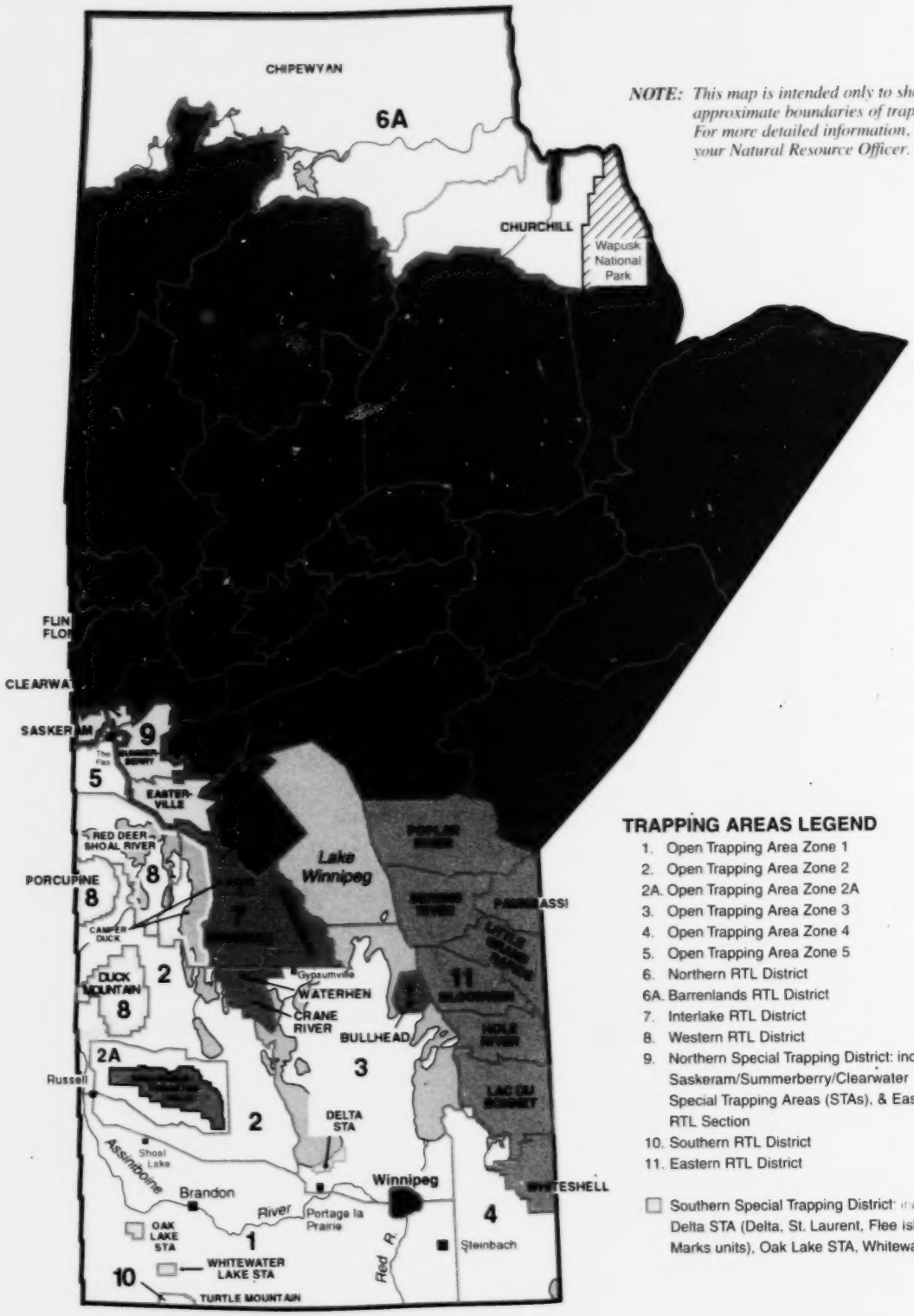
Together, we are helping our communities maintain their traditions and help our youth reconnect with the land.

Have a safe trapping season.

Stan Struthers

Stan Struthers, Minister
Manitoba Conservation

TRAPPING BOUNDARIES MAP



NOTE: This map is intended only to show the approximate boundaries of trapping areas. For more detailed information, consult your Natural Resource Officer.

TRAPPING AREAS LEGEND

1. Open Trapping Area Zone 1
2. Open Trapping Area Zone 2
2A. Open Trapping Area Zone 2A
3. Open Trapping Area Zone 3
4. Open Trapping Area Zone 4
5. Open Trapping Area Zone 5
6. Northern RTL District
6A. Barrenlands RTL District
7. Interlake RTL District
8. Western RTL District
9. Northern Special Trapping District: includes Saskeram/Summerberry/Clearwater Special Trapping Areas (STAs), & Easterville RTL Section
10. Southern RTL District
11. Eastern RTL District

☐ Southern Special Trapping District includes Delta STA (Delta, St. Laurent, Flee island, St. Marks units), Oak Lake STA, Whitewater STA

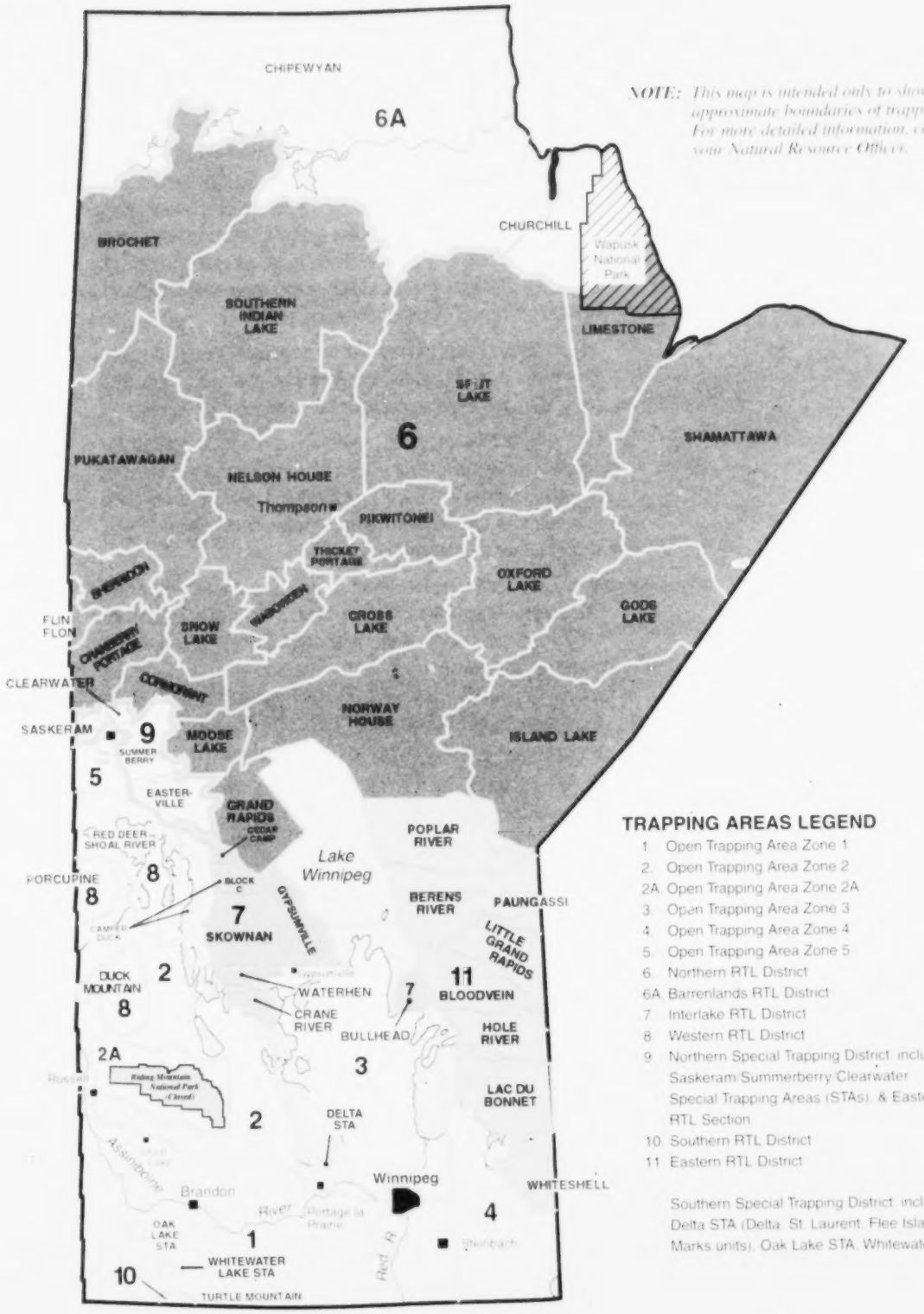
2005-2006 TRAPPING SEASON SCHEDULE

Area/zone numbers below refer to the map legend on the previous page
OAZ = Open Trapping Area Zone; RTL = Registered Trapline; ST = Special Trapping

		SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG
AQUATIC/SEMI-AQUATIC	**BEAVER**	All Areas	Oct. 1, 2005 to May 31, 2006										
	MINK	RTL Section 6 & 6A	Nov. 1, 2005 to Feb. 28, 2006										
		All Other Areas	Nov. 1, 2005 to Jan. 31, 2006										
	MUSKRAT	OAZ 5; Northern ST District; All RTL Districts (except Gypsumville RTL Section & Camperduck Blocks A & B)	Oct. 14, 2005 to May 31, 2006										
		Gypsumville RTL Section	Mar. 15, 2006 to April 30, 2006										
		Camperduck Blocks A & B	Closed										
		OAZ 1-4	Oct. 14, 2005 to April 30, 2006										
		Southern ST Districts, Oak Hammock Marsh & Grant's Lake WMAs	Oct. 14, 2005 to April 30, 2006 Special Permit Only										
	RIVER OTTER	OAZ 1	Closed										
		RTL District 10	Nov. 1, 2005 to Jan. 31, 2006 (Quota of 2*)										
		OAZ 2, 2A, 3, 4 & RTL District 8	Nov. 1, 2005 to Feb. 28, 2006										
		All Other Areas	Nov. 1, 2005 to March 31, 2006										
TERRESTRIAL	**BADGER**	All Areas	Nov. 1, 2005 to Jan. 31, 2006										
	BLACK BEAR	Northern ST District & RTL Districts 6-8, 11 (except Whiteshell RTL Section)	Sept. 16, 2005 to Nov. 14, 2005		Closed				April 1, 2006 to May 31, 2006				
		Whiteshell RTL Section	Sept. 16, 2005 to Nov. 14, 2005		Closed				April 1, 2006 to May 19, 2006				
		All other areas	Closed										
	FISHER	OAZ 1 & RTL District 10	Nov. 1, 2005 to Jan. 31, 2006 (Quota of 2* in RTL District 10)										
		RTL Districts 6 & 6A	Nov. 1, 2005 to Feb. 28, 2006										
		All Other Areas	Nov 1, 2005 to Feb 15, 2006										
	FOX (ARCTIC)	RTL District 6 & 6A	Nov. 15, 2005 to Mar. 31, 2006										
		All Other Areas	Closed										
	FOX (RED) & COYOTE	RTL District 6A	Nov. 15, 2005 to Mar. 31, 2006										
		All Other Areas	Oct. 14, 2005 to Feb. 28, 2006										
	LYNX & BOBCAT	All Areas	Dec. 1, 2005 to Feb. 28, 2006										
	MARTEN	RTL Districts 6 & 6A	Nov. 1, 2005 to Feb. 28, 2006										
		OAZ 1	Nov. 1, 2005 to Jan. 31, 2006										
		RTL District 10	Nov. 1, 2005 to Jan. 31, 2006 (Quota of 8*)										
		All Other Areas	Nov. 1, 2005 to Feb. 15, 2006										
	RACCOON	OAZ 1	Oct. 1, 2005 to April 30, 2006										
		All Other Areas	Oct. 14, 2005 to April 30, 2006										
	RED SQUIRREL	All Other Areas	Nov. 1, 2005 to Feb. 15, 2006										
		RTL Districts 6 & 6A	Nov. 1, 2005 to Feb. 28, 2006										
	TIMBER WOLF	OAZ 1, 2 & Districts 8, 10	Oct. 14 2005 to Feb. 28, 2006										
		OAZ 2A	Closed										
		All Other Areas	Oct. 14, 2005 to Mar. 31, 2006										
	WEASEL (Long & Short-tailed)	All Other Areas	Nov. 1, 2005 to Feb. 15, 2006										
		RTL Districts 6 & 6A	Nov. 1, 2005 to Feb. 28, 2006										
	WOLVERINE	OAZ 1-5	Closed										
		All Other Areas	Nov. 1, 2005 to Feb. 15, 2006										

Otter, Marten and Fisher: RTL District 10 — pelts must be tagged prior to sale.

TRAPPING BOUNDARIES MAP



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RIVER OTTER	OAZ 1	Closed											
	RTL District 10	Nov. 1, 2005 to Jan. 31, 2006 (Quota of 2*)											
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TERRESTRIAL													
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BLACK BEAR	Northern ST District & RTL Districts 6-8, 11 (except Whiteshell RTL Section)	Sept. 16, 2005 to Nov. 14, 2005			Closed			April 1, 2006 to May 31, 2006					
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MARTEN	RTL Districts 6 & 6A	Nov. 1, 2005 to Feb. 28, 2006											
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	RTL District 10	Nov. 1, 2005 to Jan. 31, 2006 (Quota of 8*)											
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	RTL Districts 6 & 6A	Nov. 1, 2005 to Feb. 28, 2006											
TIMBER WOLF	OAZ 1, 2 & Districts 8, 10	Oct. 14 2005 to Feb. 28, 2006											
	OAZ 2A	Closed											
	All Other Areas	Oct. 14, 2005 to Mar. 31, 2006											
WEASEL (Long & Short-tailed)	All Other Areas	Nov. 1, 2005 to Feb. 15, 2006											
	RTL Districts 6 & 6A	Nov. 1, 2005 to Feb. 28, 2006											
WOLVERINE	OAZ 1-5	Closed											
	All Other Areas	Nov. 1, 2005 to Feb. 15, 2006											

** Otter, Marten and Fisher: RTL District 10 — pelts must be tagged prior to sale.*

2005-2006 CHANGES

Otter - Experimental Seasons

- Southern RTL District (Turtle Mountain RTL) from November 1 to February 28; quota of 2 otter/trapper, pelts must be tagged prior to sale.
- Otter are now being reported incidentally trapped in beaver sets. Season allows for legal harvest and provides information as to distribution and relative abundance.

Fisher - Experimental Seasons

- Open Trapping Area Zone 1 and in the Southern RTL District (Turtle Mountain RTL) from November 1 to January 31.
- All fisher caught in the S. RTL District must have the pelt tagged prior to sale; quota of 2 fisher/trapper.
- Season introduced because fisher are now being reported incidentally trapped in marten sets. Season allows for legal harvest and provides information as to distribution and relative abundance.

Marten

- Increase quota to 8 marten/trapper in the Southern RTL District (Turtle Mountain RTL section), pelts must be tagged prior to sale.
- Marten were introduced into this RTL section in 1989 by the local trappers association; the association believes the population can sustain additional harvest.

Mink, Weasel, and Red Squirrel

- Season close for these species in the Northern and Barrenlands RTL Districts to be extended to February 28.
- These abundant species are now incidentally taken in marten and fisher sets. By aligning the closing dates with that of marten, trappers will not need to obtain possession permits for incidentally taken animals.

Wolverine

- Season close in the Northern and Barrenlands RTL Districts to be extended to February 28.
- This species is now incidentally taken after the season close date of February 15 in lynx sets.
- By aligning the closing date with that of lynx, trappers will not need to obtain additional possession permits for incidentally taken animals.

FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

- **Lynx** harvests and population cycles are monitored to determine if and when the trapping season may need to be modified. See page 12 for more information.
- **Policy** review of the "Furbearer Management Policy, 2001."
- **Youth Trapping Permits** would be available free of charge if the trapper is 12 to 17 years of age **on the date that the permit is obtained.** This change makes age requirements for this youth permit the same as for youth hunting licences.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Licences and Permits

Manitoba trapping licences are available only to residents of Manitoba. Fees are:

• Registered Trapline (RTL) Permit:	$10.00
• Open Area Licence:[1]	$5.00
• Open Area Licence – Treaty:[1]	Free
• Youth Trapping Licence/Permit:*	Free

*Youth trapping licences are available to qualified trappers who are 17 years of age or younger at any time between September 1, 2005 to August 31, 2006.

[1] Special Trapping Areas – separate approval must be obtained from the nearest District Office to trap in STAs.

See Mandatory Trapper Education requirements on page 14.

When fur is being shipped, sold or taken to a taxidermist or tanner for mounting or dressing, the following information must be provided: name, address and licence number of the trapper who caught the furbearer, plus the area where the furbearer was taken. Record licence numbers correctly or your fur production will not be credited to you.

Accidental Furbearer Capture Policy

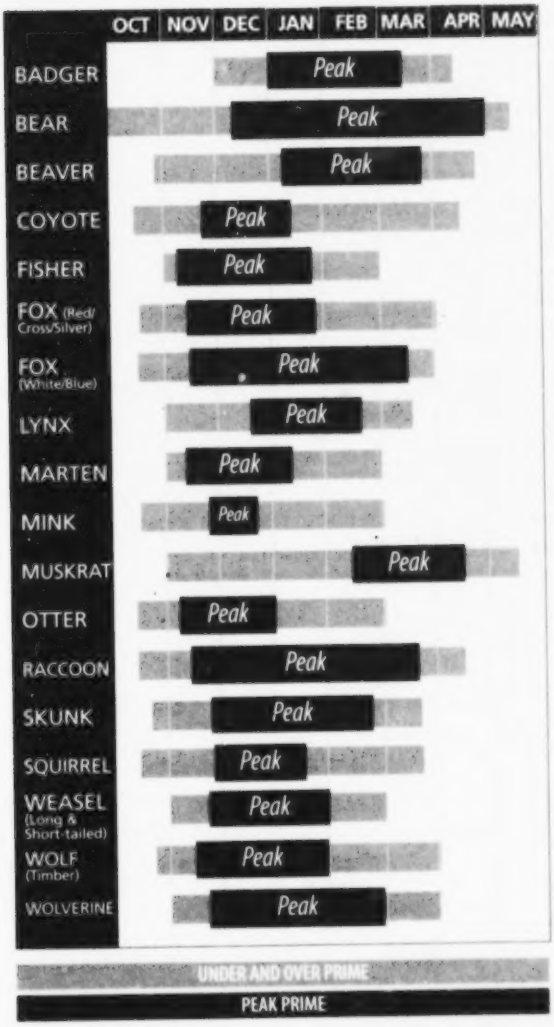
Occasionally, a furbearer will be taken accidentally (outside the open season, for example). The trapper may be allowed to keep and market the animal if a possession permit (cost of $10) is obtained as soon as possible from Manitoba Conservation. All other accidental captures of the same species by the same trapper must be turned over to the nearest Manitoba Conservation office and will remain the property of the Crown. The exception is black bear; open area trappers are **not** allowed to keep a black bear taken accidentally.

Trapping and Sharing the Land

Trappers share Crown and private lands with other users. It is important that trappers use care to **minimize the potential contact with other users of the land.**

- Trappers who use private lands are encouraged to provide the landowner with a map showing the locations of their traps and the types of traps being used. In this way, the landowner can caution other users of the land about trapping activity and reduce the possibility of injury to other users and domestic animals.
- With the permission of the pasture manager, PFRA/community pastures are generally open to trappers after livestock have been removed.
- When trapping in built-up areas and/or cottage subdivisions, trappers are advised to use extreme caution in selecting the location for sets. **Please remember that people and pets may frequent the area.**

FURBEARER PRIMENESS CHART



Sunday Trapping and Firearm Use

Taking furbearers, timber wolves and black bear is permitted on Sundays, provided:

- the trapper holds a valid trapping licence
- it occurs in an area and valid season where trapping of that species is permitted

Trappers should also contact municipal officials about by-laws that may affect the discharge of firearms. Several municipalities have such by-laws in place. These by-laws override provincial legislation.

FURBEARER PRIMENESS

An important part of setting furbearer seasons is when pelts are prime. In a fully prime pelt both the guard hairs and the under-fur have reached optimum length and density. On the leather side of the pelt, the hair roots have stopped producing pigment and contract, resulting in a skin that is soft, flexible and creamy white. In an un-prime skin, the under-fur and guard hairs are not fully developed and are at low density. The leather is bluish to black as a result of active pigment production in the hair roots.

Furs harvested at prime bring better prices. Trappers should harvest fur when prime in your area.

TRAPPING REGULATIONS

NOTE: This is a summary of the trapping regulations. For more information please consult your local Natural Resource Officer.

No person shall:

1. Trap, attempt to trap, possess or sell a furbearing animal without having first obtained a trapper's licence.
2. Trap in areas where trapping is not permitted.
3. Possess illegally taken furbearers.
4. Chase, drive, flush, worry, harass, follow after or search for furbearers from a vehicle. **Note:** The definition of a vehicle is a motor vehicle, trailer, tractor, powerboat, aircraft or any other vehicle drawn, propelled or driven by any means other than human power.
5. Remove, disturb, spring or in any way interfere with any trap set out lawfully by any other person for the purpose of taking furbearing animals.
6. Shoot a muskrat, beaver or otter except when they are on land or in a trap.
7. Ship raw fur out of the province without first paying the royalties and obtaining an export permit. Contact a local Natural Resource Officer for more information.
8. Tan or process raw furs without first paying the royalties on the pelts to be tanned.

9 Possess poison, including cyanide guns or parts of cyanide guns, for the purpose of taking furbearing animals.

10 Spear, break or destroy a muskrat house, beaver lodge or beaver dam without authorization from the Minister of Conservation. A licenced trapper may open a muskrat house in season for the purpose of trapping providing that he closes it so the water entrance does not freeze.

11 Use snares for taking furbearing animals and timber wolves in any areas except the Registered Trapline (RTL) Area. Special permits may be issued in exceptional circumstances. This does not include power snares that may be used in the Open Areas to take furbearers, but not black bears.

12 Take black bear on an Open Area trapping licence in Open Areas 1-5. It is permissible to take black bear on either a RTL permit in the RTL Area or on a resident trapping licence in the Northern Special Trapping Area, but only using a firearm.

13 Trap or attempt to trap furbearing animals within Game Hunting Area 38, Grants Lake Wildlife Management Area (WMA), Oak Hammock WMA, Birds Hill Provincial Park, Beaudry Provincial Heritage Park or Pembina Valley Provincial Park, except under authority of a special permit issued by the minister or a person designated by the minister. Trapping is prohibited in ecological reserves.

14 Trap or attempt to trap furbearers on private land or on posted Crown land without first obtaining permission to do so.

15 Hold both a RTL permit and an Open Area trapping licence during the same trapping year, except a landowner who may hold both under certain circumstances.

16 Leave trapping devices set after the end of trapping season.

17 Trap furbearing animals using traps with teeth or serrated edges or with hooks.

18 Trap furbearing animals using leghold traps attached to spring poles.

19 Trap furbearing animals using leghold traps set in trees or on poles above ground. The trap used must be a body grip or killing trap.

20 Trap furbearing animals using live holding devices unless they are checked at least once every 72 hours.

21 Use manual snares set on land unless they are equipped with a locking device or set in such a manner that the noose is prevented from expanding.

22 Take black bear using a snare (conventional, foot or power) or any live-capture device.

23 Take black bear while the bear is in its den.

24 Take a female black bear with cubs.

25 Have in possession a live furbearing animal unless specifically authorized by permit.

26 Buy and/or sell raw fur except under the authority of a dealer's licence.

27 Transfer or use the licence/permit of another person.

28 Market the pelt of a marten, fisher or otter taken in the Turtle Mountain Registered Trapline Section unless it has a tag issued by Manitoba Conservation affixed to the pelt.

29 Possess, sell, attempt to sell or import the bile or gall bladder of a bear.

30 Use an unmodified leghold trap with a jaw spread greater than 23 centimetres (9.06 inches).

31 Use a leghold trap to trap beaver, mink, muskrat or river otter unless it is set in such a manner as to restrain and kill the animal under water.

32 Use a leghold trap on land to trap badger, beaver, weasels, fisher, marten, mink, muskrat, otter, raccoon, red squirrel or wolverine.

33 Use an unmodified leghold restraining trap to trap bobcat, coyote, lynx, timber wolf, or fox.

34 Allow any part of the pelt of furbearers, black bears and wolves to be wasted, destroyed, abandoned or allowed to spoil.

35 On finding a live furbearer, or wolf in a trapping device, fail to immediately and humanely kill the animal.

Wild Fur Royalties

Royalties must be paid on all wild furs taken and are usually deducted by the fur dealer or auction company where the first transaction occurs.

SCHEDULE OF ROYALTIES

SPECIES	ROYALTY RATE ($)
Weasel (Long & Short-tailed), Muskrat, Squirrel	0.05
Badger, Beaver, Fox (all), Mink, Raccoon	0.50
Otter	0.75
Bear, Coyote, Fisher, Lynx/Bobcat, Marten, Wolf	1.00
Wolverine	2.50

Fur Dealers

It is essential to furbearer management programs that fur dealers continue to regularly submit reports. The dealer reports are monitored and compliance audits will continue.

The *Fur Dealers, Tanners and Taxidermists Regulation*, Manitoba Regulation 33/88 R, states in part:

- Each fur dealer shall immediately make an entry or record, on appropriate forms of every trade, purchase, sale, import or export made by him or her of any animal parts and each entry shall

show the date of trade, purchase or sale, import or export, the name and address of the person from whom the animal parts were obtained or to whom they were traded, sold or otherwise disposed of, the type of licence held by that person and the number of the licence.

- Each fur dealer shall submit, on or before the 10th day of each month, a return, of each trade, purchase, sale, import or export of animal parts by the dealer the preceding month; and the address and licence number of the person from whom the animal parts were obtained. This includes a NIL report where there have been no transactions.

Exporting Raw Fur

A provincial export permit ($20.00 per permit) is required before shipping or moving raw furbearing animal pelts from Manitoba to other provinces or countries. Provincial export permits are available from your nearest Manitoba Conservation office.

A CITES (Convention on the International Trade of Endangered Species) permit is also required to take bobcat, black bear, lynx, river otter and timber wolf across international borders. CITES permits, also free, are available at 200 Saulteaux Cres., Winnipeg, MB, R3J 3W3, or by calling (204) 945-1893. Arrangements for CITES permits may also be made through your nearest Manitoba Conservation office.

A CITES permit is needed to take certain species at risk or their look-alikes (for example, lynx and bobcat respectively) across international borders. Although there may be many animals of one type in Canada, such as timber wolf and otter, there may not be many in the rest of the world. In addition, black bears are included because trade in bear galls has depleted bear populations over most of the rest of the world.

Special Permits

A Natural Resource Officer may issue special permits to harvest furbearing wildlife to manage numbers and protect property outside of the normal trapping regulations and seasons. Certain conditions may be attached to the special permit, such as type of device to be used, disposal of pelts, number of animals to be taken, specific location etc.

COSEWIC

Some wildlife populations need to be watched closer than others. COSEWIC (Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada) is a federal/provincial committee that studies, reports on and assigns a status to various species of plants and animals in Canada. COSEWIC considers information from the most reliable sources and assigns status in one of the following categories:

- Special Concern – a species that is particularly sensitive to human activities or natural events but is not an endangered or threatened species. In Manitoba, wolverine is listed as Special Concern.
- Threatened – any native species of plants or animals that is likely to become endangered in Canada if the factors affecting its vulnerability are not reversed
- Endangered – any native species of plants or animals that is threatened with imminent extinction or extirpation throughout all or a significant portion of its Canadian range
- Extirpated – any native species of plants or animals no longer known to exist in the wild in Canada but occurring elsewhere
- Extinct – any species of plants or animals formerly native to Canada but no longer known to exist anywhere

FURBEARER HARVESTS AND VALUES

Trapping is a business operation because a product is sold (fur). Good record-keeping is important for any business, but with trapline management, it is also important should the trapper want to apply for a registered trapline. Applications are assessed on numerous criteria including a trapper's annual harvest or production. Trappers should keep records and receipts for all pelts sold to verify their harvests. Ideally, pelts should be sold in the year that they were caught and under the trapper's own licence or permit.

Fur marketing options:

- Pelts may be sold to a licenced fur dealer.
- Pelts may be consigned to a fur auction company.
- Pelts may be sold to a fur dealer or consigned to an auction company at fur tables held in Northern Manitoba.
- Pelts may be sold privately; however trappers must provide buyers with their name and licence number and must pay the royalty at a Manitoba Conservation office prior to sale.
- Pelts may be commercially tanned and resold; however, the royalty must first be paid. Usually the tanning establishment will pay the royalty and add it to their price.

Properly preparing furs results in a higher return.

MANITOBA TRAPPER LICENCES ISSUED

	2000/ 2001	2001/ 2002	2002/ 2003	2003/ 2004	2004/ 2005*
Open area	4,355	4,958	5,503	5,804	5133
Registered	1,827	1,764	1,668	1,708	1664
Total	6,182	6,722	7171	7512	6797
Youth OA			81	98	95
Youth TIL			137	109	91
Youth RTL			36	47	62
Total			254	254	153

** As of June, 2005*

FURBEARERS TAKEN BY MANITOBA TRAPPERS

Production	5 year averages				
	1988/ 1992	1993/ 1997	1998/ 2002	2003/ 2004	2004/ 2005*
Badger	89	162	121	240	105
Bear		28	58	54	n/a
Beaver	15,959	31,590	22,902	18,964	11,138
Bobcat	n/a	n/a	15	25	15
Coyote	3,352	2,790	4,086	8,378	5,506
Fisher	2,328	2,257	1,880	1,674	1,100
Fox Red/Cross/ Silver)	4,412	3,165	1,909	2,607	2,131
Fox White/Blue	275	661	203	187	468
Lynx	422	148	535	1,060	865
Marten	8,240	16,166	19,611	20,059	23,650
Mink	8,244	5,810	4,865	5,416	2,383
Muskrat	20,315	81,016	29,702	8,483	4,001
Otter	1,219	1,904	2,136	3,071	1,276
Raccoon	885	2,614	2,209	3,674	1,996
Squirrel	5,892	9,247	5,300	4,240	2,395
Weasel (Long & Short-tailed)	2,831	3,085	2,635	3,136	1,529
Wolf	212	302	259	281	235
Wolverine	46	57	36	43	29

** As of April 2005*

AVERAGE AUCTION VALUE OF MANITOBA FURBEARERS

SPECIES	5 year averages				
	1988/ 1992	1993/ 1997	1998/ 2002	2003/ 2004	2004/ 2005*
Badger	$11.88	$23.80	$36.88	$42.88	$35.00
Bear	76.20	76.88	124.63	49.84	59.29
Beaver	15.11	32.55	24.86	22.63	25.41
Bobcat	n/a	n/a	n/a	144.81	97.33
Coyote	28.65	34.07	37.57	49.19	34.04
Fisher	61.47	48.26	34.64	43.30	44.81
Fox Red/Cross/ Silver)	12.33	23.37	26.51	29.64	24.71
Fox White/Blue	13.82	25.17	21.25	24.49	21.35
Lynx	123.90	100.51	92.49	191.44	151.81
Marten	61.67	54.07	45.94	51.61	58.40
Mink	36.24	24.53	17.65	19.41	21.30
Muskrat	1.75	3.56	2.75	2.01	2.28
Otter	44.74	83.71	107.28	168.21	152.52
Raccoon	8.25	18.74	15.52	17.34	12.17
Squirrel	1.06	1.36	1.11	1.07	0.97
Weasel (Long & Short-tailed)	3.18	4.53	3.62	2.71	3.25
Wolf	120.25	111.23	109.74	80.43	116.83
Wolverine	187.34	215.02	219.39	232.07	177.48

** As of May 2005*

ROYALTY – TOTAL COLLECTED

1999/ 2000	2000/ 2001	2001/ 2002	2002/ 2003	2003/ 2004	2004/ 2005*
$39,305	$57,470	$44,948	$49,983	$49,179	$42,323

** As of April 2005*

FIRST NATIONS

The Rights and Responsibilities of First Nations People Who Trap in Manitoba

The Natural Resources Transfer Agreement (1930), which forms part of *The Constitution Act* (1982), provides that First Nations people have the right to trap for food:

- at all seasons of the year on all unoccupied Crown lands
- on any other lands to which they may have the right of access

Recognizing the Treaty and Constitutional rights of First Nations people, Manitoba Conservation recognizes that status Indian people, when trapping for food or traditional ceremonial purposes on lands where they have a right of access:

- do not require licences
- are not restricted to specific seasons
- are not restricted to limits unless there restrictions that are intended for conservation purposes
- may share the meat and fur with non-status family members living in the same residence
- are not subject to equipment restrictions including those as specified under EU Regulation #3254/91 or more commonly known as the Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards

First Nations people generally have the right of access to trap for food or traditional ceremonial purposes within:

- Indian reserves, Wildlife Management Areas, Provincial Forests, areas of Provincial Parks where licensed trapping is permitted, unoccupied Crown lands, and other Crown lands where licensed hunting or trapping is permitted
- private land with the permission of the landowner or occupant
- federal land, such as PFRA/community pastures and CFB Shilo, when such lands are opened to the public for trapping, or with the permission of the Pasture Manager or Base Commander

No person (status or non-status) may trap within:

- Riding Mountain National Park, Birds Hill Provincial Park, Beaudry Provincial Heritage Park or Pembina Valley Provincial Park
- areas of Provincial Parks closed to all hunting or trapping
- Wildlife Refuges and most Ecological Reserves
- areas closed to all persons for specific conservation purposes

Responsibilities

With these rights come responsibilities such as conservation and safety requirements. All First Nations trappers have a responsibility to ensure that their actions in taking furbearers do not reduce the sustainability of furbearer populations.

The rights of status Indian people are subject to conservation measures and other restrictions that do not unduly infringe on food harvesting. **First Nation trappers may not:**

- trap protected furbearers for which trapping is prohibited such as wolverine in the open trapping areas of Manitoba
- waste or abandon furbearers
- sell, trade or give away the meat, fur or any other part of furbearers taken under status Indian trapping rights, except that food may be given to another First Nations person
- sell the pelt of a furbearer unless it was caught under the authority of a Trappers Licence and all trapping regulations were followed

Safety Requirements

Many safety restrictions contained in resource management legislation apply to all trappers in Manitoba, including First Nations trappers. **No trapper may:**

- use trapping methods that are careless, unsafe or dangerous to any person
- discharge a rifle or shotgun at night (the period beginning at 1/2 hour after sunset and ending at 1/2 hour before sunrise the following day)
- hunt from a provincial road or provincial trunk highway or discharge a bow or firearm from such a road or highway, or shoot along or across such a road or highway (including the road allowance) for the purpose of taking a furbearer
- discharge a centrefire rifle, muzzle-loading firearm or shotgun using a slug from a public road within a municipality or local government district, or shoot along or across such a road
- carry a loaded firearm in a vehicle or discharge a firearm from a vehicle

It is also recommended that all trappers:

- wear hunter orange clothes when trapping during the time of year when there are big game hunters in the same area or where there may be other people using the same area for other purposes
- take a Manitoba Trapper Education course

Mutual Respect

There are many resource users on the land who are carrying on their traditions. Commercial and other licensed users of wildlife need to understand and respect the constitutionally protected rights of First Nations people. It is equally important for First Nations people to understand and respect the value that other users place on natural resources and their ability to participate in trapping for their purposes under a licence. All users need to work co-operatively towards building a stronger relationship if Manitoba's trapping and hunting heritage is to be preserved.

First Nations trappers are encouraged to carry the federally issued Certificate of Indian Status to help Natural Resource Officers determine that they are entitled to exercise the right to trap for food and ceremonial purposes.

For more detailed information, please contact the nearest Manitoba Conservation office. Telephone 945-6784 within Winnipeg, 1-800-214-6497 from outside Winnipeg or visit the Conservation website at: **www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/firstnations/**

Treaty Land Entitlement

Manitoba Conservation is currently working with some First Nations to provide Crown land to fulfill outstanding treaty land entitlement (TLE). Many First Nations have, or are in the process of selecting, lands to fulfill their entitlements and some selections may have an impact on some traplines and trapping activity. The lands selected are eligible to become reserve land under the terms of the TLE Framework Agreement. Once the selected lands are confirmed, the First Nation may request an Exclusive Use Permit (EUP) from the Crown Lands Branch of Manitoba Conservation. Once the EUP is issued, First Nations then have the authority to exclude all current and future uses of the permitted land, including trapping activities.

FURBEARER MANAGEMENT

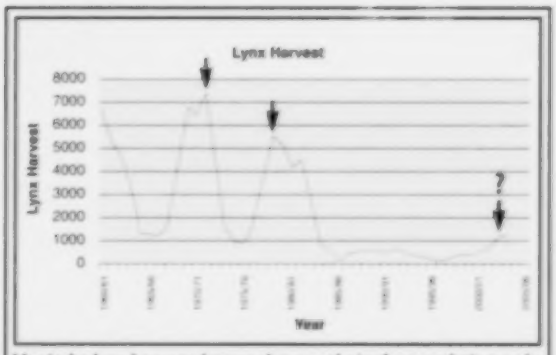
Lynx Populations and Seasons

Lynx numbers cycle up and down about every ten years. However, in the 1980's, the peak part of the cycle did not occur in Manitoba and other provinces (see graph next column). At the time, pelt prices were extremely high. Overharvest, particularly of adult females during the low parts of the cycle, was likely one reason. The lynx cycle has still not fully recovered. To help the recovery, lynx seasons were closed in the mid-1980's and mid-1990's.

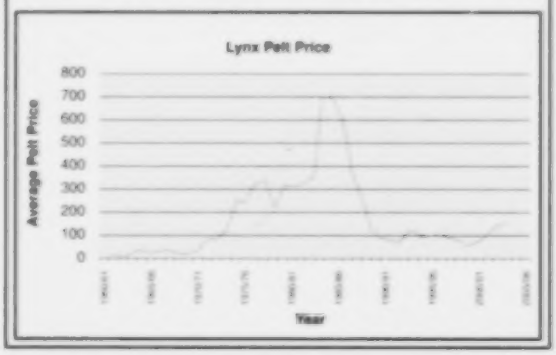
Manitoba will continue to watch lynx populations closely. If concern still exists, then another season closure will be considered.

Beaver Management

The beaver is one of Manitoba's most important furbearers. In the early 1900s, beaver almost became extinct because of disease and overharvest. However, strict conservation measures and the introduction of the registered trapline system during the mid-1940s were successful in rebuilding the population.



Manitoba lynx harvest. Arrows show peaks in the population cycle.



The number of beaver harvested by trappers is directly related to the average market value of beaver pelts on the fur markets. Recent harvests have ranged from a low of 12,000 in 1990/91 (average pelt value of $14) to a high of 68,000 in 1979/80 (average pelt value of $40). During successive years of low prices, trapping pressure is reduced and the beaver population grows relatively uninhibited until they become a major problem causing millions of dollars damage to private property, transportation routes and farmland. Most problems occur in rural municipalities adjacent to the Duck Mountain Provincial Park and Riding Mountain National Park and, more recently, in the southeastern part of the province where abnormal amounts of precipitation have occurred.

To assist rural municipalities and Northern Affairs communities with beaver related problems, Manitoba Conservation introduced the Problem Beaver Removal Program in 1993. Approximately 6,000 problem beaver are removed annually. However, the impact of this program has been minimal because low pelt prices has reduced the trapping effort during the licenced season. Consequently, the beaver population continues to grow.

In 2001/02, Manitoba Conservation introduced a second part to the program, the Winter Beaver Subsidy Program. This was intended to encourage trappers to remove beaver from chronic problem areas and registered trapline districts adjacent to municipalities that are affected by beaver migrating out from the registered traplines.

The Winter Beaver Subsidy Program will again be implemented within those areas experiencing problems. A reduced summer program will operate from May to October 15, 2005. Shortly after this, the winter program will begin when beaver trapping season opens. Trappers who are interested in participating in these programs should contact their local municipality or nearest Manitoba Conservation office to obtain guidelines.

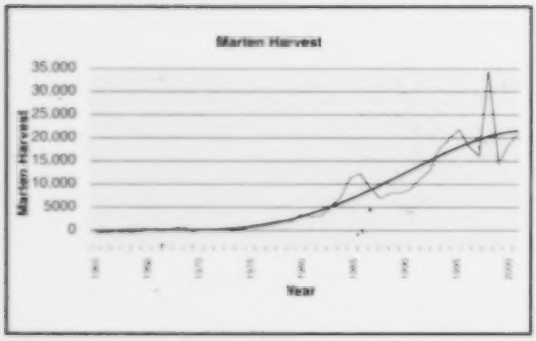
Martens in Manitoba—Ups and Downs?

The American marten has made a remarkable expansion back into its former range throughout Manitoba. This recovery was most apparent by the record harvest in 2000/01, with over 33,000 animals taken. Radio-tracking and genetic research since 2000 have shown that marten have the ability to reproduce and distribute very quickly.

The 2000/01 season likely represented the point at which marten filled most of the available habitats in Manitoba, as harvests have varied considerably since that year and not increased as in the two decades before. Up to that point, food supply (voles, squirrels, and snowshoe hares) seemed unlimited, but not so now.

When food is scarce, marten will scatter in search of prey and be quite easy to bait and catch. This prey scarcity occurred in 2000 and again in summer/fall of 2004. Both times, trappers experienced high marten harvests the next winter. However, a prey crash is invariably followed by a drop in the numbers of predators. Indeed, as marten harvests became depressed after 2000/01, a lower harvest is expected in winter 2005/06.

Periods of boom and bust are well known in wildlife populations, and marten are another example of this trend. Trappers will need to recognize this so they can adjust their harvests to other species if need be.



Trapping and Forestry

Crown lands in Manitoba are managed using the principles of multiple use. Two of the many uses include furbearer and forest management. Both activities are important to the regional and provincial economies, and when properly managed, can co-exist and be mutually beneficial. For example, certain roads constructed for cutting areas can also be used by trappers. The key to co-existence is communication between all users of the land.

Forest Management Licence (FML) holders conduct the majority of timber harvesting in Manitoba. FML holders hold annual open houses to meet directly with other users of the land to make them aware of what activities are taking place. Trappers are encouraged to attend these open houses and speak directly to the forestry representative.

Local fur council meetings can be one way to meet with forestry companies. It is also important for everyone involved in these discussions to keep in touch throughout the year.

Other Programs

- Manitoba Conservation, the Intermountain Conservation District, the Manitoba Trappers Association and the Duck Mountain Trappers Association held a beaver-trapping workshop and discussed options for problem beaver control in Western Manitoba.
- Manitoba Conservation and the Manitoba Trappers Association continued to partner on trapper education programs, with over 230 students passing the mandatory trapper education exam in 2004/05.
- Manitoba Conservation continued to review the Furbearer Management Policy with staff and the stakeholders, including the Manitoba Trappers Association.

Over the next year, Manitoba Conservation will:

- Undertake a review of the "Furbearer Management Policy, 2001."
- Partner with the Manitoba Trappers Association to update the Trapper Education manual.
- Work with communities to develop alternate land-based outdoor education programs for use in their own schools.
- Review problem beaver removal programs.
- Work with the Fur Institute of Canada and the other provinces and territories to harmonize implementation of the Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards in 2007.

FURBEARER DISEASES

Furbearers may carry parasites and diseases such as rabies, tularemia, hantavirus and giardia (commonly known as beaver fever) that can be transmitted to humans. Trappers should take precautions, including immunizations against rabies. Please consult your family doctor or public health unit about immunization against rabies. If you are in Winnipeg frequently, you may find it convenient to be immunized through the intradermal program (contact Margaret Rubin, Health Sciences Centre, 204-789-3364).

When animals suspected of being diseased are encountered, they should only be handled with good quality rubber gloves, sealed in strong plastic bags and taken to a Manitoba Conservation office as soon as possible. To avoid hantavirus infection, please call your nearest public health office for the Hantavirus Fact Sheet, or go to: **www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/cdc/factsheets.html**

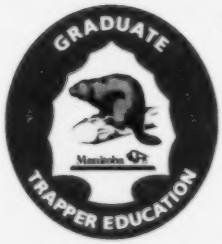
What should I do if bitten by a wild animal?

First wash the wound or exposed surface with soap and water. Then seek immediate medical advice from your doctor, nearest health facility or local public health unit. Misericordia Health Links can assist you in contacting public health services (seven days a week, 24 hours a day) at 788-8200 (Winnipeg) or 1-888-315-9257 (province-wide).

If you suspect any animal is rabid or you would like more information on rabies, contact your nearest Canadian Food Inspection Agency office. Their telephone numbers are located in the Government of Canada listings in your telephone book.

Some doctors may not be aware of the serious and perhaps life-threatening infections that can be transmitted to trappers by wildlife. Trappers should explain their contact with furbearers to the examining doctor. For more information on wildlife-caused diseases, please contact your local public health unit.

TRAPPER EDUCATION



Trapper education is an important part of furbearer management in Manitoba. Courses may be available on request and are usually two days or three evenings. Subject areas covered include:

- History of the Fur Trade
- Trapline Management
- Furbearer Biology
- Public Awareness
- Animal Rights
- Trapping Equipment
- Boarding (forming)
- Fur Marketing
- First Aid
- Humane Trapping
- Problem Animal Control Methods
- Furbearer Management
- Acts and Regulations
- Trapper Ethics
- Skinning
- Fur Grading
- Trap Research
- Video Presentations

For further information, please contact the nearest Manitoba Conservation district office or the Manitoba Trappers Association.

Mandatory Trapper Education

Any Manitoba resident wishing to obtain a trapping licence is required by regulation to satisfactorily complete the Trapper Education Course. If a Manitoba resident has previously held a trapping licence or permit from Manitoba or another province, he or she is not required to take this training. The mandatory trapper training is offered in two ways:

1. First-time trappers may borrow a manual from any Manitoba Conservation district office and complete a multiple-choice question examination. A passing mark of 80 per cent is required. If this is not achieved, a second examination may be written later.
2. Attend a Trapper Education Course and then write the exam.

Persons under the age of 14 must be accompanied by a licensed trapper when engaged in trapping activities in the field.

Trapper Responsibilities

Trapping is a privilege – not a right. Maintaining public acceptance of trapping as a legitimate job is the responsibility of trappers and resource managers. The trapper's responsibilities include the following:

- Take furbearers with the least amount of stress.
- Avoid capturing non-furbearing animals.
- Maintain a high degree of proficiency in pelt preparation.
- Use a kill-type trap to harvest marten, weasel, mink and muskrat when taken on land. Kill-type sets for otter and beaver should be fully submerged. When a squirrel is harvested, other than by snaring or shooting, a kill-type trap should be used.
- Use underwater sets wherever possible for aquatic species. Proper locks and slide wires set in a sufficient depth of water should be used on all hold and drown-type shore sets.
- Ensure that padded leghold traps set on land are secured to a drag of sufficient weight and strength.
- Ensure that neck snares set on land are equipped with proper locking devices.
- Inspect live-holding devices daily in the early morning. Make only as many sets as you can effectively manage.
- Identify trap and snare (power and conventional) "set locations" and carefully record them on a map.
- When trapping on private land, always ask permission and provide the landowner with a map showing the location and the types of traps and snares used.
- Know and use proper releasing and killing methods.
- Dispose of animal carcasses properly.
- Respect the rights and property of others and assist landowners with removal of problem wildlife.
- Encourage and support trapper education and public-awareness programs.
- Promptly report the presence of diseased animals to the nearest department office.
- Protect and conserve wildlife and its habitat.
- Respect and obey laws.

CO-OPERATING ORGANIZATIONS

Manitoba Trappers Association

The Manitoba Trappers Association (MTA) represents the interests of all trappers. Your involvement is important, and MTA gives provincial focus to trappers' concerns. The association needs committed members and the department encourages all trappers to become active in their local affairs through a Local Fur Council (LFC). LFCs can play a vital role by bringing forward local concerns to the department. LFCs can, with the department, review applications for vacant registered traplines to ensure local traditions are taken into consideration during the review process.

For more information, please contact:

Manitoba Trappers Association
Box 518
Lac du Bonnet, MB R0E 1A0
Telephone: 204-345-9107 • Fax: 204-345-9170

The Canadian National Trappers Alliance

The Canadian National Trappers Alliance is Canada's only National Organization representing Canadian Trappers (CNTA). The CNTA maintains an active website for all trappers which can be found at www.trapper.ca

Fur Institute of Canada

The Fur Institute of Canada (FIC) is a non-profit organization supported by all sectors of the fur industry, including trappers, to promote conservation and optimum development of Canada's fur resources.

Since FIC was incorporated in 1983, it has:

- promoted a united effort by all sectors in resolving issues faced by the fur industry
- promoted standardization of trapper education programs in Canada
- developed and implemented national and international public education programs
- promoted the conservation of furbearing animals through increased knowledge of furbearer biology, behaviour and habitat management, and played key roles in the reintroduction of fisher and marten into certain areas
- developed the most extensive trap research program in the world
- taken the leading role in the development of international standards for animal traps
- undertaken workshops in Manitoba to provide aboriginal trappers with information respecting the AIHTS

The trap research program has resulted in several traps being approved as meeting the standards. A complete list of the traps approved as meeting the standards is identified on page 17 of this guide.

For more information, please contact:

The Fur Institute of Canada
Suite 605 -130 Slater Street, Ottawa ON K1P 6E2
Telephone: 613-231-7099 Fax: 613-231-7940, www.fur.ca

HUMANE TRAPPING

Humane trapping is the taking of furbearers with the least amount of stress to the animal. **Trappers should select the most humane and efficient method possible to capture furbearers.**

Canada has the most humane trapping methods in the world. To ensure continued markets for our wild-caught fur, Canada, Russia and the European Union (EU) signed the *Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards* **(AIHTS).** It sets performance standards for traps. These factors have kept trapping an acceptable and legitimate profession to the general public.

Manitoba regulations are meeting our obligations to the AIHTS. (See Implementation Schedule on page 16).

What AIHTS means for Manitoba trappers:

1. **AIHTS applies to almost all furbearers** trapped and those trappers who trap for commercial purposes in Manitoba (see Summary charts in English, Cree, and Ojibwe; pages 18-20).
2. **Leghold Restraining Trap:**
   - **Modified versions include the padded, laminated and offset leghold restraining traps.**
   - Manitoba wildlife regulations **prohibit the use of all types of unmodified leghold traps on land** (see Summary charts on pages 18-20).
   - All types, when used in a drowning set, *will be allowed until June 2007.*
   - **Leghold Power Snare is not included** in the definition of a leghold trap, but is **prohibited** for black bear in all areas.
3. **Neck Snares:**
   - **Power & Common Suspended:** Can be used underwater, but cannot be used to take black bear.

- **Common Suspended:** Trappers cannot use this snare to take or attempt to take any furbearer in Open Area Zones 1-5.

4 **Body Grip Traps:** All of the Conibear-type, rotating-jaw traps that are currently being used are accepted until June 2007.

5 **After June 2007,** only those traps meeting AIHTS requirements will be allowed. If no traps are found to meet the standard, use of existing traps will be allowed while research continues.

6 The requirements for a killing trap to meet the standard are the following:

In a compound test, the trap must render 80 per cent (10 of 12) of animals tested irreversibly unconscious within a time limit of:

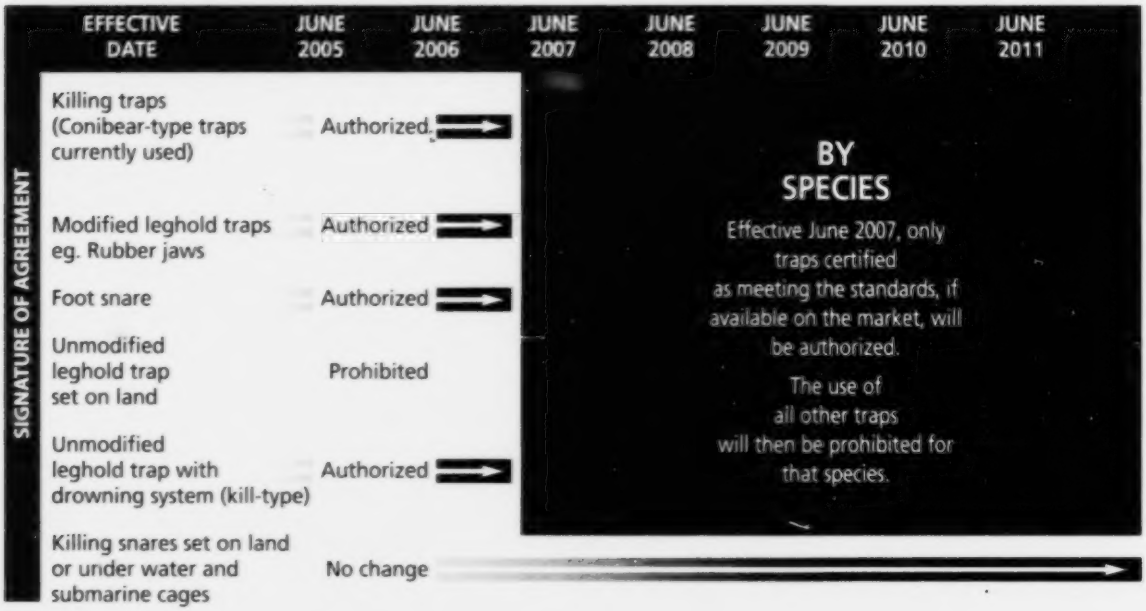
- 45 seconds for weasel
- 120 seconds for marten
- 300 seconds for all other species named in the AIHTS.

7 **Firearms** may be used to take furbearers, black bears and timber wolves. However, the use of firearms by trappers is subject to other regulations under *The Wildlife Act, The Provincial Parks Act*, local municipal by-laws, and federal acts.

IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE • INTERNATIONAL HUMANE TRAPPING STANDARDS (CANADA, RUSSIA AND EUROPEAN UNION)

By September 2007, only **certified** traps will be legally allowed for trapping the species listed in the Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards (AIHTS). Certification can only be obtained through the Canadian Trap Certification Program administered by the provinces and territories.

If no certified trap is available for a given species after June 2007, it will be possible to continue to use the traps allowed at that time (even though they do not meet the standards) until a replacement trap consistent with the standards is available.


EFFECTIVE DATE
JUNE 2005
JUNE 2006
JUNE 2007
JUNE 2008
JUNE 2009
JUNE 2010
JUNE 2011
SIGNATURE OF AGREEMENT
Killing traps (Conibear-type traps currently used)
Authorized
Modified leghold traps eg. Rubber jaws
Authorized
Foot snare
Authorized
Unmodified leghold trap set on land
Prohibited
Unmodified leghold trap with drowning system (kill-type)
Authorized
Killing snares set on land or under water and submarine cages
No change
BY SPECIES
Effective June 2007, only traps certified as meeting the standards, if available on the market, will be authorized.
The use of all other traps will then be prohibited for that species.

The traps listed in the table below have been certified for use in 2007. Some traps have already been tested and await certification.

Additional certifications will be available from the Fur Institute of Canada (page 15), the Manitoba Trappers Association (page 15) and Manitoba Conservation district offices (page 24) as they become available.

Certified trap models are given exclusive identification letters that manufacturers will have to mark on traps they manufacture in 2007 and beyond. If the same trap models were certified and manufactured before 2007, trappers may still legally use these same trap models, regardless of whether they bear this mark.

Note: Starting in 2006/07, only certified traps will be listed in this guide.

SPECIES	KILLING TRAPS TESTED AND FOUND TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE AIHTS (*indicates now Certified for use after 2007)
Beaver (on land and underwater)	Bélisle Super X 280*; Bélisle Super X 330*; BMI 330 Body Gripper*; Bridger 330*; LDL C 330*; Rudy 280*; Rudy 330*; Sauvageau 2001-11*; Species-Specific 330 Dislocator Half-Magnum; Species-Specific 440 Dislocator Half-Magnum; Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 280* ; Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 330*
Beaver (underwater)	Bélisle Classic 330*; BMI 280; LDL C280*; Sauvageau 2001-8*
Beaver (on land)	Sauvageau 1000 - 11F*
Fisher	Bélisle Super X 160*, Bélisle Super X 220*; Koro #2*; LDL C160 Magnum*; Sauvageau 2001-5*; Sauvageau 2001-8*
Lynx	Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 330
Marten	Bélisle Super X 120*; BMI 126 Magnum Body Gripper*; LDL B120 Magnum*; Rudy 120 Magnum*; Sauvageau C 120 Magnum*; Sauvageau 2001-5*
Muskrat (on land)	Triple M; Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 110; Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 120
Muskrat (underwater)	Any trap set as a submersion set that exerts clamping force on a muskrat and that maintains a muskrat underwater meets the requirements of the AIHTS for muskrat.
Raccoon	Bélisle Classic 220*, Bélisle Super X 160*; Bélisle Super X 220*; BMI 160 Body Gripper*; BMI 220 Body Gripper*; Bridger 220*; LDL C160*; LDL C220*; Rudy 160*; Rudy 220*; Sauvageau 2001-6*; Sauvageau 2001-7*; Sauvageau 2001-8*; Species-Specific 220 Half-Magnum; Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 160*; Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 220*
River Otter (underwater)	Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 330
Weasel	Victor Rat Trap

SPECIES	RESTRAINING TRAPS TESTED AND FOUND TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE AIHTS (*indicates now Certified for use after 2007)
Bobcat	Bélisle Footsnare*
Coyote	Bélisle Footsnare*; Bridger #3 equipped with 5/16-inch offset, double rounded jaw laminations (3/16-inch on topside of jaw and 1/4-inch on underside of jaws), with 4 coil springs and a swivel centre mounted on base plate; Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch*
Lynx	Bélisle Footsnare*; Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch® equipped with 4 coil springs*; Oneida Victor #3 Coil Spring equipped with a minimum of 8mm thick, non-offset jaws, 4 coil springs and an anchoring swivel centre mounted on a base plate*.

SUMMARY OF USES OF LEGHOLD TRAPS AND SNARE DEVICES IN MANITOBA (Examples of various devices shown)

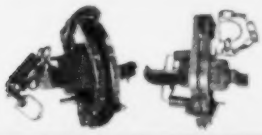
SPECIES	UNMODIFIED LEGHOLD RESTRAINING TRAP	MODIFIED LEGHOLD TRAP	COMMON SUSPENDED SNARE	POWER SNARE	LEGHOLD POWER SNARE
BADGER	Prohibited	Prohibited	RTL Zones Only*	Allowed*	Allowed*
BEAVER	Drowning set only*	Drowning set only*	RTL Zones & Drowning Set in Open Zones*	Allowed*	Allowed*
BLACK BEAR	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited
BOBCAT	Prohibited	Allowed*	RTL Zones Only*	Allowed*	Allowed*
COYOTE	Prohibited	Allowed*	RTL Zones Only*	Allowed*	Allowed*
FISHER	Prohibited	Prohibited	RTL Zones Only*	Allowed*	Allowed*
FOX (ALL)	Prohibited	Allowed	RTL Zones Only*	Allowed*	Allowed*
LYNX	Prohibited	Allowed*	RTL Zones Only*	Allowed*	Allowed*
MARTEN	Prohibited	Prohibited	RTL Zones Only*	Allowed*	Allowed*
MINK	Drowning set only*	Drowning set only*	RTL Zones Only*	Allowed*	Allowed*
MUSKRAT	Drowning set only*	Drowning set only*	RTL Zones Only*	Allowed*	Allowed*
OTTER	Drowning set only*	Drowning set only*	RTL Zones Only*	Allowed*	Allowed*
RACCOON	Prohibited	Prohibited	RTL Zones Only*	Allowed*	Allowed*
RED SQUIRREL	Prohibited	Prohibited	RTL Zones Only*	Allowed*	Allowed*
TIMBER WOLF	Prohibited	Allowed*	RTL Zones Only*	Allowed*	Allowed*
WEASELS (Long & Short-tailed)	Prohibited	Prohibited	RTL Zones Only*	Allowed*	Allowed*
WOLVERINE	Prohibited	Prohibited	RTL Zones Only*	Allowed*	Allowed*

**Effective June 2007, only traps certified as meeting the standards, if available on the market, will be authorized (see Implementation Schedule on page 16).*

***Examples only of modified leghold traps available commercially.*

Refer to the "Trapping Regulations" section (page 7) of this guide for additional conditions of use and consult with your nearest Natural Resource Officer for additional information respecting trapping regulations.

WÍHTAMÁKÉWIN É-ISI APATAHKI WAN'IKANA AKWA NAKWÁKANA OHCI



TOWÍHKÁN AHTAY	NATO PÍWÁPISKO WANÍKAN	OSKI PÍWÁPISKO WANÍKAN	NATO NAKWÁKAN	WÉPAKWÁKAN	MISITOWI NAKWÁKAN
MISTANASK	namwác	namwác	éhé, wanikéskanáhk poko*	éhé*	——
AMISK	éhé nistápáwéwin poko*	éhé nistápáwéwin poko*	éhé, wanikéskanáhk nistápáwéwin kéhciwák ká isi pásikénikátéki*	éhé*	——
KAHITÉWASKWA	namwác	namwác	namwác	namwác	namwác
PISIW (BOBCAT)	namwác	éhé*	éhé, wanikéskanáhk poko*	éhé*	——
APISTAHÍHKANÍS	namwác	éhé*	éhé, wanikéskanáhk poko*	éhé*	——
OCÉK	namwác	namwác	éhé, wanikéskanáhk poko*	éhé*	——
MAHKÉSIW	namwác	éhé	éhé, wanikéskanáhk poko*	éhé*	——
PISIW (LYNX)	namwác	éhé*	éhé, wanikéskanáhk poko*	éhé*	——
WÁPISTÁN	namwác	namwác	éhé, wanikéskanáhk poko*	éhé*	——
SÁKWÉSIW	éhé, nistápáwéwin poko*	éhé, nistápáwéwin poko*	éhé, wanikéskanáhk poko*	éhé*	——
WACASK	éhé, nistápáwéwin poko*	éhé, nistápáwéwin poko*	éhé, wanikéskanáhk poko*	éhé*	——
NIKIK	éhé, nistápáwéwin poko*	éhé, nistápáwéwin poko*	éhé, wanikéskanáhk poko*	éhé*	——
WÍNIPICÁP	namwác	namwác	éhé, wanikéskanáhk poko*	éhé*	——
ANIKWACÁS	namwác	namwác	éhé, wanikéskanáhk poko*	éhé*	——
MISTAHÍHKAN	namwác	éhé*	éhé, wanikéskanáhk poko*	éhé*	——
SIHKOSIW	namwác	namwác	éhé, wanikéskanáhk poko*	éhé*	——
OKÍHKWAYÁKÉW/OMINÁCÍS	namwác	namwác	éhé, wanikéskanáhk poko*	éhé*	——

**2007 askiy wáwi písim (June), wanikana ká ki pakitinikátéki poko, kita ki ápatanwa.*
(see Implementation Schedule on page 16).

Kinawapahta éyinánéw masinahikanékin ita ká wihtamákék wanikéwi wanasiwéwin, akwa mina kakwécim okanawahtayéw kisáspin awasimé ki wi kiskénihtén.

AANIIN GEDAABAJICHIGAADEGIN WANII'IGANAN ZHIGWA NAGWAAGANAN

AWESIIYAG	BIIWAABIKO-WANII'GANAN OKAADAAMAANG DESOOJIGEMAGAKIN	AYAANJICHIGAADEGIN BAKAAN WANII'GANAN	NAGWAAGANAN	GAA-GASHKAABIKISEG NAGWAAGAN	GAA-GASHKAABIKISEG NAGWAAGAN OZIDAANG ONJI
MITANASK(WAG)	gaawiin	gaawiin	Gaa-bagidiniweng ji-wanii'igeng etago*	Miinange*	——
AMIK(WAG)	Anaamibiigi-wanii'iganan eta*	Anaamibiigi-wanii'iganan eta*	Gaa-bagidiniweng ji-wanii'igeng Anaamibiigi-wanii'iganan*	Miinange*	——
MAKADE-MAKWA(WAG)	gaawiin	gaawiin	gaawiin	gaawiin	gaawiin
GIDAGAABIZHIW(AG)	gaawiin	Miinange*	Gaa-bagidiniweng ji-wanii'igeng etago*	Miinange*	——
MECHAAGANISH(AG)	gaawiin	Miinange*	Gaa-bagidiniweng ji-wanii'igeng etago*	Miinange*	——
OJIIG(AG)	gaawiin	gaawiin	Gaa-bagidiniweng ji-wanii'igeng etago*	Miinange*	——
WAAGOSH(AG)	gaawiin	Miinange	Gaa-bagidiniweng ji-wanii'igeng etago*	Miinange*	——
BIZHIW(AG)	gaawiin	Miinange*	Gaa-bagidiniweng ji-wanii'igeng etago*	Miinange*	——
WAABIZHESHI(WAG)	gaawiin	gaawiin	Gaa-bagidiniweng ji-wanii'igeng etago*	Miinange*	——
ZHAANGWESHI(WAG)	Anaamibiigi-wanii'iganan eta*	Anaamibiigi-wanii'iganan eta*	Gaa-bagidiniweng ji-wanii'igeng etago*	Miinange*	——
WAZHASHK(WAG)	Anaamibiigi-wanii'iganan eta*	Anaamibiigi-wanii'iganan eta*	Gaa-bagidiniweng ji-wanii'igeng etago*	Miinange*	——
NIGIG(WAG)	Anaamibiigi-wanii'iganan eta*	Anaamibiigi-wanii'iganan eta*	Gaa-bagidiniweng ji-wanii'igeng etago*	Miinange*	——
ESIBAN(AG)	gaawiin	gaawiin	Gaa-bagidiniweng ji-wanii'igeng etago*	Miinange*	——
AJIDAMOO(G)	gaawiin	gaawiin	Gaa-bagidiniweng ji-wanii'igeng etago*	Miinange*	——
MA'IINGAN(AG)	gaawiin	Miinange*	Gaa-bagidiniweng ji-wanii'igeng etago*	Miinange*	——
ZHINGOS(AG)	gaawiin	gaawiin	Gaa-bagidiniweng ji-wanii'igeng etago*	Miinange*	——
GWIINGWA'AGE(G)	gaawiin	gaawiin	Gaa-bagidiniweng ji-wanii'igeng etago*	Miinange*	——

**June 2007 da-maajise, iniwen eta wanii'iganan gaa-bagidinigaadegin da-aabajichigaadewan apii wanii'igeng.*
(see Implementation Schedule on page 16).

Inaabin "Wanii'iganiwi-Onashowe Mazina'iganing" ani-nishwaasowi-maziniiganing aaniin ge-gashkitooyamban geizhichigeyamban. Gemaa gaye ganoonzh 'awe Natural Resource Officer gaa--izhinikaazod ji-wiindamaag wegonen ge-gashkitooyamban wanii'igeyan.

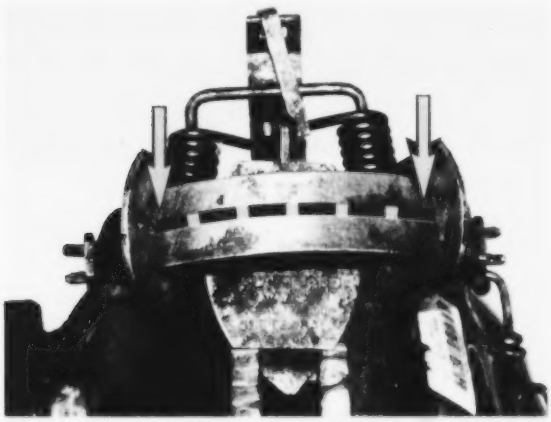
FOX SETS: MODIFICATIONS FOR STANDARD LEGHOLD TRAPS

Standard leghold traps for foxes must be modified by means of offset, padded or laminated jaws. **Offsets must be a minimum of 5mm (3/16").** Trappers can modify their old leghold traps into offsets.

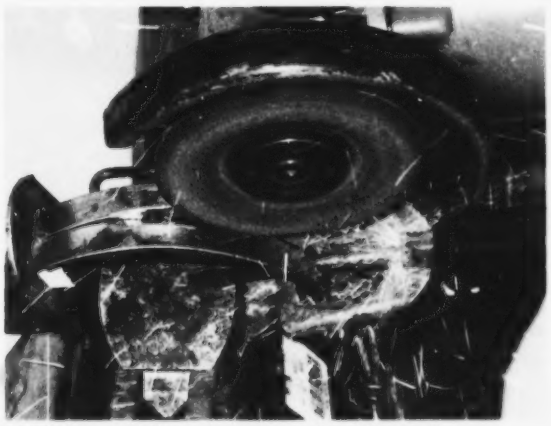
A method is shown below for modification of offset leghold traps for foxes. You will need a power grinder, flat and round files and a vice.

Clamps and heavy wire may be needed to safely restrain springs, depending upon the trap type.

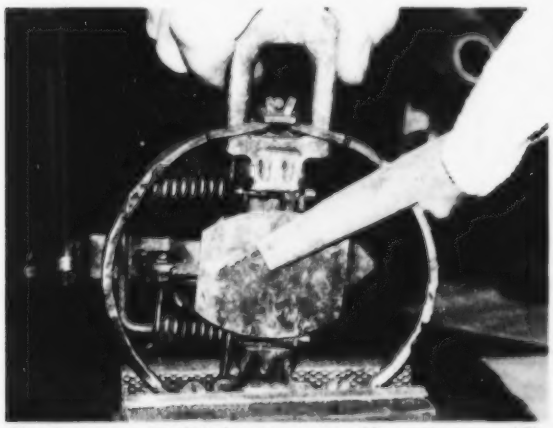
Other modifications can be done with kits, pads or laminates purchased from trap dealers. Swivels on the chains are also recommended. **Note:** Welding or wrapping a stop on the jaws is **not** recommended, because the trap will not close efficiently.



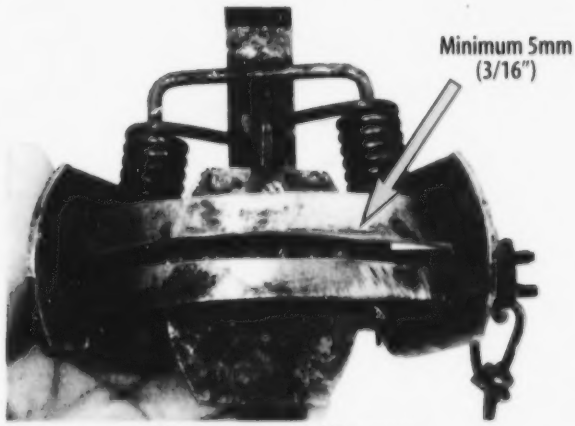
Place the trap in a vice with jaws closed. Mark a minimum 5mm (3/16") wide space along the jaws between the closed limits of the springs.



Grind the space, taking care not to overheat the metal.



File edges to **remove ALL sharp corners and burrs**. Use a round file where necessary.



Re-measure the offset gap and re-grind if necessary.

If you have any comments or suggestions on modifications, please contact:

Manitoba Trappers Association
Box 518
Lac du Bonnet MB R0E 1A0
(204) 345-9107 or fax (204) 345-9170
mta@mts.net

Manitoba Conservation, Wildlife and Ecosystem Protection Branch
Box 24–200 Saulteaux Crescent
Winnipeg MB R3J 3W3
(204) 945-7469 or fax (204) 945-3077
wildlife@gov.mb.ca

THE REGISTERED TRAPLINE SYSTEM AND THE LINEHOLDER

What is a "RTL"?

The Registered Trapline (RTL for short) System is a unique conservation method whereby a person, the "lineholder," is granted the exclusive opportunity to harvest furbearing animals in a certain area, the "RTL line." The system ensures sustainable furbearer populations by controlling the number of trappers in that area and making the lineholder the steward of the resource. Some RTL sections are called "blocks," as no individual lines exist and all eligible community members may use the block.

Why is it important?

By the 1940s, trapping was out of control in northern Manitoba and furbearing animal numbers had been badly depleted. Part of the reason was the large influx of new people into the north with the building of the rail line to Churchill. Animals were also being taken without regard for the time of year or their populations.

More tragically, local people (mostly First Nations) who had been trapping on the land for generations saw their traditional livelihoods threatened. At the request of the communities, Manitoba created the RTL system to allow local people to continue trapping on their traditional lands and at the same time make them stewards of their traplines. From the original RTLs created around the communities of Thicket Portage and Pikwitonei, the system has grown to a total of 46 community-based "sections" each with a varying number of individual lines.

Why is it even more important today?

When a RTL section was created by the community/First Nations trappers themselves, it usually also represented the traditional lands used by a community and defined those boundaries legally for the first time. These boundaries now form the basis for many major land-use projects around those communities (such as the Northern Flood Agreement management areas and the Poplar-Nanowin Rivers Park Reserve).

RTL trappers themselves are often the best sources of natural history information (traditional knowledge), as they are on the land more often than are most other people. It comes at a time when this information is constantly needed to track not just furbearing animals, but big game and the health of habitats.

How can I get an RTL line?

Lines cannot be sold, inherited, or handed down. They are awarded through competitions held in co-operation between the local trapping organization and Manitoba Conservation. Decisions are made through a scoring process, whereby **a varying number of points are given to applicants based, among other things, on:**

- family relationship to the previous lineholder
- their recent fur harvest history with that trapline or one in the same section
- their residency in relationship to the trapline being allocated

The process maintains a balance by recognizing that local residents have preferential access to RTL lines, but also by being flexible in allowing trappers from other communities an opportunity to compete for a line.

What does it mean to be a RTL lineholder?

Allocation of a RTL line is a significant event. When you are a lineholder, you have the exclusive opportunity to:

- harvest the fur resource on that line
- establish a cabin on your line for trapping purposes
- have a helper to assist you in your efforts
- manage a valuable natural resource

What are the lineholder's obligations?

Some RTL lines are in great demand, and **it is unfair to others if a lineholder is not exercising the privilege that they have been given.** Lines can be re-allocated if not used.

Lineholders have responsibilities that include:

- using the resource that has been allocated
- ensuring that your actions do not jeopardize furbearer populations
- upgrading your trapping techniques to maximize your pelt value
- voicing your opinions and concerns to your local organization and to Manitoba Conservation
- updating traps according to the latest humane standards
- ensuring any improvements such as cabins have the proper permits

What kind of cabin can be built?

A lineholder can build a main cabin and a certain number of line cabins, depending upon the size of their line. All lineholders are bound by the regulations set out in *The Wildlife Act* and other acts. Permits are required for cabins and are issued only in the name of the lineholder.

When a trapper no longer holds a RTL line, permission for them to have the cabin ends and they have no legal right to keep it in place. Incoming lineholders are under no obligation to buy any improvements on the line, such as a cabin. As such, a trapping cabin should be built at low cost with the thought in mind that, if an

incoming lineholder does not want to purchase it, the cabin would have to be removed.

The ability to erect a trapper cabin is a unique privilege afforded only to the lineholders. Use of a trapping cabin for purposes other than trapping, without prior approval, is not allowed (e.g., unauthorized outfitting).

How do I learn more about the RTL System?

Administration of the RTL System is set out through *The Wildlife Act* of Manitoba and its regulations and through the Furbearer Management Policy. Copies are available from any Manitoba Conservation office. The Policy sets out guidelines and procedures for all trapping activities in Manitoba.

Chief Bello Ross and Conservation Officer Don Linn come to an agreement at an RTL meeting in Cross Lake, 1954.

Fur Advisory Council Meeting, The Pas 1948.

FOR MORE INFORMATION...

Manitoba Conservation Offices

RED RIVER REGION

Manitou – Box 10, R0G 1G0 • 242-2950
Morris – Box 180, R0G 1K0 • 746-6567
Portage la Prairie – 25 Tupper St. N, R1N 3K1 • 239-3204
Steinbach – Box 2019, R0A 2A0 • 346-6110
Winnipeg – Box 30, 200 Saulteaux Cres., R3J 3W3 • 945-7273

INTERLAKE REGION

Ashern – Box 410, R0C 0E0 • 768-2368
Birds Hill – Box 183, R.R. 2, Dugald, R0E 0K0 • 654-6730
Gimli – Box 6000, R0C 1B0 • 642-6070
Grand Beach – Box 220, R0E 0T0 • 754-5040
Gypsumville – Box 9, R0C 1J0 • 659-5208
Hodgson – Box 119, R0C 1N0 • 372-6296
Lundar – Box 10, R0C 1Y0 • 762-5229
Riverton – Box 70, R0C 2R0 • 378-2261
Selkirk – 1 Keystone Drive, R1A 2H5 • 785-5080
Winnipeg Beach – Box 388, R0C 3G0 • 389-2752

EASTERN REGION

Beausejour – Box 50, 20 First St. S., R0E 0C0 • 268-6184
Bissett – Box 108, R0E 0J0 • 277-5212
Falcon Lake – Box 40, R0E 0N0 • 349-2201
Hadashville – Box 17, R0E 0X0 • 426-5313
Lac du Bonnet – Box 850, R0E 1A0 • 345-1400
Pine Falls – Box 389, R0E 1M0 • 367-2481
Rennie – R0E 1R0 • 369-5246
Seven Sisters – Box 9, R0E 1Y0 • 348-4004
Sprague – Box 70, R0A 1Z0 • 437-2348
West Hawk Lake – Box 119, R0E 2H0 • 349-2245

WESTERN REGION

Boissevain – Box 820, R0K 0E0 • 534-2028
Brandon – 1129 Queens Ave., R7A 1L9 • 726-6441
Carberry – Box 900, R0K 0H0 • 834-8800
Dauphin – Box 10, 27-2nd Ave. SW, R7N 3E5 • 622-2106
Grandview – Box 156, R0L 0Y0 • 546-5000
Killarney – Box 1420, R0K 1G0 • 523-5200
Mafeking – Box 27, R0L 1B0 • 545-2263
McCreary – Box 128, R0J 1B0 • 835-2806
Neepawa – Box 1089, R0J 1H0 • 476-2076
Roblin – Box 849, R0L 1P0 • 937-2181
Shoal Lake – Box 416, R0J 1Z0 • 759-4080
Swan River – Box 640, R0L 1Z0 • 734-3429
Virden – Box 1360, R0M 2C0 • 748-4240
Winnipegosis – Box 366, R0L 2G0 • 656-4871

NORTHEASTERN REGION

Churchill – Box 760, R0B 0E0 • 675-8897
Gillam – Box 429, R0B 0L0 • 652-2273
Gods Lake Narrows – R0B 0M0 • 335-2366
Island Lake – Box 69, Stevenson Island, R0B 2H0 • 456-2362
Leaf Rapids – Box 430, R0B 1W0 • 473-8133
Lynn Lake – Box 239, R0B 0W0 • 356-2413
Norway House – Box 100, R0B 1B0 • 359-6877
Thompson – Box 28, 59 Elizabeth Dr., R8N 1X4 • 677-6640
Wabowden – Box 40, R0B 1S0 • 689-2688

NORTHWESTERN REGION

Cranberry Portage – Box 130, R0B 0H0 • 472-3331
Flin Flon – Rm. 203 Prov. Bldg., 143 Main St., R8A 1K2 • 687-1640
Grand Rapids – Box 322, R0C 1E0 • 639-2241
Snow Lake – Box 339, R0B 1M0 • 358-2521
The Pas – Box 2550, R9A 1M4 • 627-8287

1-800-214-6497

For more information on this and other wildlife programs, call this toll-free number or 945-6784 in Winnipeg or go to:
www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/wildlife

MG-8691 (Rev. 2005)